

– REMARKS FOR MAYOR PAUL FRAIM –
INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL TIGER GRANT AWARD
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2014

Good afternoon and thank you for the kind introduction, John

On behalf of City Council, I am pleased to welcome you all to Norfolk to applaud the Virginia Port Authority and the Norfolk International Terminal for receiving a \$15 million DOT TIGER Grant award and to express our gratitude to Vice President Biden, Senator Warner and Congressman Scott along with Administrator Jaenichen for their roles in making this happen.

Also, we are honored to have our good friend Governor McAuliffe here to today and thank him for all he does for us and the Port. Your attendance today signifies the strategic value of this terminal and the widespread support it shares from all levels of government

The Port of Virginia is a gateway for international trade and commerce - and serves as a critical economic engine for the Commonwealth. Norfolk is proud to be home to its largest and busiest facility – Norfolk International Terminals – a mammoth operation bordering the historic Elizabeth River.

Founded in 1682 as a Port town, international trade has defined who we are as a city and as a region. And it is international trade, centered right here in Norfolk and in Hampton Roads, that makes it possible for Virginia to compete with other regions around the world and to take a leadership position in the growing global economy.

The Port of Virginia has been developed and nurtured by Virginians for generations...and as a community it is our duty to be good stewards of the Port now and in the future.

That is why we are so excited about this grant. Along with the \$15 million TIGER grant, the VA Port Authority will provide \$16 million in matching funds to support the construction of a new intermodal gate and servicing complex to be built at the north end of the terminal. It will also help connect the Norfolk port directly to I-564.

This \$31 million investment will not only increase efficiency of freight operation to and from the port, but it will also improve congestion and reduce truck traffic through neighboring residential streets.

This expansion is great news for the Port Authority and it is great news for the city. Together, we will rise to meet the growing demand of maritime commerce and we will work to advance our position in the global marketplace.

Thank you to US DOT and the Virginia Port Authority for investing in the Norfolk International Terminal.